

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON WOMEN AND GIRLS  
EDUCATION AND STEAM SUBCOMMITTEE  
Virtual Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, October 27, 2021  
1:00 p.m.**

I. **Welcome remarks** – Director Larson began the meeting at 1:02 pm.

II. **Subcommittee reports:**

- **CODING CHALLENGE** – Matt Mervis and Carolyn Alessi – larger committee met on October 19<sup>th</sup>. Timeline will be a little longer – January launch, submissions due in April and judging in May and recognition event in June. Overall structure works with some fine tuning on certain elements in the challenge. Areas for growth primarily widening the amount of participation and recruitment specifically among alliance districts. Also trying to build capacity among students and other organizations. Theme will be centered around social emotional learning. Spoke about bumping up and increasing incentives for participation. Fiscal agent and funding – need a new fiscal partner. Looking at sponsorship differently – would like to tap into corporations that are willing to offer in-kind resources as well as monetary support. Sponsorship package is being developed – hoping to have that available within next month.
- **OPPORTUNITY HUB** – Noele Kidney - OHE intern Jonathan continues to manage the COWAG information hub's (recently renamed Opportunities Hub) progress. Firstly, he has been working very closely with infrastructure leads including the Connecticut Digital Service and Department of Administrative Services. Additionally, he has reached out to project managers responsible for some of Connecticut's digital 'bright spots' and has engaged with them to gain valuable information he can apply to the project at hand. Each week Jonathan hosts a project status meeting with stakeholders from the private and public sectors to go over his progress from the following week. These weekly meetings have proven to be very productive and valuable to the project's long-term success. If you would like to learn more about Jonathan's work on the COWAG's website and Opportunities Hub, he encourages you to email him at [jonathan.richter@ct.gov](mailto:jonathan.richter@ct.gov)
- **INTERNSHIP TOOLKIT** – no update, members are continuing to fine tune the toolkit
- **ARTS** – the group has lost quite a few members because of time demands. Have received some suggestions for new members, if anyone would like to either join or knows of someone who would be a great addition to the group, please let Janice know.

III. **Million Women Mentor Update** –Carolyn Alessi – CT Chapter was awarded the State of the State Trailblazer Award from the national organization. Thanks the ED and STEAM Subcommittee because many of the MWM steering committee members come from this group. We have three new working groups: Mentoring Up – aligned with Paradigm for Parity, Mentors and Role Models within STEM, and PreK-12 STEM Pipeline. Please contact Carolyn Alessi if you'd like to be a part of this initiative.

IV. **Steering Committee member presentations (approximately 3-5 minutes each):**

- No Presentations at this meeting

**V. Announcement of next meeting – December 8, 2021 (Virtual)**

**VI. Meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.**